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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20510

January 6, 1976

Legislative Counsel
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear [REDACTED]

I very much appreciate the time you and your colleagues made available for Chuck Meissner and myself last week. The discussion was most useful in helping to develop our thinking on some of the issues that we will be facing on the question of Congressional oversight.

During the meeting we touched on the question of the furnishing of information to Congress by executive agencies and what guidelines or procedures could be set up.

The Government Operations Committee has had pending before it since July S. 2170, which attempts to set up a formalized procedure for Congressional receipt of information from Federal agencies. I have enclosed a copy of the bill.

The Intergovernmental Relations Subcommittee of the Government Operations Committee has now referred the bill to the full Committee for possible markup.

Tentative changes made to date by the Subcommittee with regard to S. 2170 include:


- 1) Section 341(a) requiring that agencies keep Congressional committees "fully and currently informed with respect to all matters relating to that agency" was struck
- 2) Various minor technical amendments.

It is unknown when this will come before the full Committee. My preference would be to handle this after dealing with Congressional oversight of the intelligence agencies although Senator Muskie would like to move sooner.

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I would be interested in any comments you have on S. 2170.

My best,


John B. Childers
Chief Counsel to the Minority

JBC:lls

Enclosure

94TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 2170

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 24 (legislative day, JULY 21), 1975

Mr. MUSKIE (for himself, Mr. ROTH, Mr. ABOUREZK, and Mr. JAVITS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Government Operations

A BILL

To establish a procedure assuring Congress the full and prompt production of information requested from Federal officers and employees.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 That this Act may be cited as the "Congressional Right to
4 Information Act".

5 SEC. 2. (a) Title III of the Legislative Reorganization
6 Act of 1970 is amended by adding at the end thereof the
7 following new part: